

## Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 03677 101802Z

62

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

SS-15 NSC-05 /062 W

----- 000567

R 101700Z JUL 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2653

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 5365

CINCLANT

USCINCEUR

USDOCOSOUTH

USLOSACLANT

USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3677

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, DPC

SUBJECT: MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE 1975

REF: A. USNATO 3597

B. USNATO 3437

C. USNATO 3245

D. USNATO 2975

SUMMARY: DURING JULY 10 DPC CONSIDERATION OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, 1975, DPC APPROVED NETHERLANDS/INTERNATIONAL STAFF-PROPOSED ADDENDUM TO SUMMARY OF DECISIONS OF MAY, 1975 MINISTERIAL MEETING, REMOVING LAST ROADBLOCK TO ISSUANCE OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, 1975 IN FINAL FORM. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING JULY 10 DPC CONSIDERATION OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, 1975, SYG LUNS OPENED DISUCSSION BY RECALLING JUNE 25 DPC MEETING (REF B), WHICH HAD LEFT PARAGRAPH 40 UNRESOLVED. HE NOTED THAT NETHERLANDS PERMREP HARTOGH HAD AGREED TO REPORT CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NATO 03677 101802Z

DPC VIEWS TO THE HAGUE WITH A VIEW TO FINDING A COMPROMISE FORMULATION. LUNS STATED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD NETHERLANDS WAS NOW PREPARED TO ACCEPT AMENDED VERSION OF PARA 40 (INCORPORATING THE "COULD" FORMULATION) AND TO DROP ITS INSISTENCE

ON A FOOTNOTE, PROVIDED THAT ADDENDUM TO SUMMARY OF DECISIONS OF MINISTERIAL MEETING (DPC/D(75)14 - REF C) STATE THAT NETHERLANDS DEFENSE MINISTER MAINTAINED HIS VIEW THAT A MORE STRINGENT FORMULATION SHOULD HAVE BEEN CHOSEN, AND ALSO PROVIDED THAT SUMMARY RECORD OF JULY 10 DPC CONTAIN NETHERLANDS STATEMENT OF DEFENSE MINISTER VREDELING'S VIEW ON RATIONALIZATION. LUNS ALSO NOTED THAT ADDENDUM WOULD REFLECT PREVIOUS DRC AGREEMENT ON MILITARY COMMITTEE-SPONSORED CHANGE TO APRAGRAPH 23 (REF D), AND THAT IF DPC APPROVED ADDENDUM, MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, 1975 COULD BE ISSUED IN FINAL FORM. TEXT OF ADDENDUM TO DPC/D(75)14 FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT:

SUBSEQUENT TO THE MINISTERIAL MEETING, THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE IN PERMANENT SESSION HAS REACHED AGREEMENT ON THE CONTESTED PARAGRAPHS 22, 23 AND 40 OF DPC/D(75)4 AS SET OUT BELOW (1);

- PARA 22 FIRST ALTERNATIVE REMAINS UNCHANGED;  
- PARA 23 FIRST ALTERNATIVE WAS ADOPTED SUBJECT TO THE AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE, AS FOLLOWS:  
DELETE ALL OF OPENING SENTENCE IN THE FIRST 2 1/4 LINES AND INSERT: "IN MOST PLAUSIBLE CIRCUMSTANCES WARSAW PACT MILITARY ACTION AGAINST NATO WOULD BE PRECEDED BY CHANGES IN THE POLITICAL SITUATION AND THESE CHANGES WOULD PROBABLY ...."  
- ALTHOUGH THE NETHERLANDS' DEFENSE MINISTER MAINTAINED HIS VIEW THAT A MORE STRINGENT FORULATION SHOULD HAVE BEEN CHOSEN, HE NEVERTHELESS LIFTED HIS RESERVATION TO PARA 40, WHEREAFTER THE FOLLOWING TEXT WAS APPROVED FOR THE FINAL SENTENCE: "THESE POSSIBILITIES HAVE TO BE PURSUED WITH INCREASED VIGOUR AS INSUFFICIENT PROGRESS IN THESE FIELDS COULD MAKE IT INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE TO MAINTAIN VALID DEFENCES WITHIN THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE."  
END TEXT.  
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PAGE 03 NATO 03677 101802Z

2. AMBASSADOR HARTOGH (NETHERLANDS) SAID SYG HAD ACCURATELY SUMMARIZED NETHERLANDS POSITION, AND THAT ADDENDUM WAS ACCEPTABLE TO NETHERLANDS. HE THEN DELIVERED STATEMENT FOR RECORD OF JULY 10 MEETING WHICH: EMPHASIZED VREDELING VIEW THAT RATIONALIZATION IS ESSENTIAL TO SUCCESSFUL DEFENSE EFFORT; NOTED VREDELING STATEMENT AT MAY , 1975 DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING TO THE EFFECT THAT INSUFFICIENT PROGRESS IN RATIONALIZATION WILL MAKE IT INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT FOR COUNTRIES TO MAINTAIN FORCES OUTLINED IN THEIR NATIONAL PLANS AND THUS JEOPARDIZE CONTINUATION OF TASKS ASSUMED BY THE ALLIES; NOTED THAT VREDELING WOULD HAVE PREFERRED A MORE STRINGENT FORMULATION OF ESSENTIALITY OF RATIONALIZATION IN MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE; AND STATED NETHERLANDS ACCEPTANCE OF "COULD"

FORMULATION AND DROPPING OF INSISTENCE UPON FOOTNOTE "IN  
THE INTEREST OF UNANIMITY."

3. LUNS PROPOSED ACCEPTANCE OF ADDENDUM TO DPC/D(75)14 TO  
DPC AND NOTED THAT HARTOGH STATEMENT WOULD BE MADE PART OF  
SUMMARY RECORD OF JULY 10 MEETING. NO PERMREP OBJECTED. LUNS  
AND HARTOGH EXCHANGED FELICITOUS PHRASES ON WISDOM OF SOLUTION,  
WHEREUPON LUNS ANNOUNCED THAT MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, 1975  
WOULD BE ISSUED, AS AGREED, IN FINAL FORM.PEREZ

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 18 AUG 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** buchantr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975NATO03677  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** NATO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t197507102/abbrzkym.tel  
**Line Count:** 120  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** n/a  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** A. USNATO 3597 B. USNATO 3437 C. USNATO 3245 D. USNATO 2975  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** buchantr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 30 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <30 APR 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <16 OCT 2003 by buchantr>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE 1975  
**TAGS:** MPOL, NATO, DPC  
**To:** STATE  
SECDEF INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS  
CINCLANT  
USCINCEUR  
USDOCOSOUTH  
USLOSACLANT

USNMR SHAPE

**Type:** TE

**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006